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THE PAPER

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The Rockford Area's ONLY Underground Newspaper for Adults

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Illinois Senate Approves Marijuana Decriminalization Bill

Just a couple of weeks ago, the Illinois Senate approved a bill 40-14 that would replace criminal penalties for possession of up to 10 grams of marijuana with more reasonable civil fines. The bill has now been moved to the Illinois House of Representatives for further consideration and possible passage.

SB 2228, introduced by Democratic Senator Heather Steans, of Chicago, would make possession of up to 10 grams of marijuana a civil violation punishable by a fine of $100 to $200. Adults would no longer face time in jail, and the civil offense would be automatically expunged twice per year, on January 1 and July 1, in order to prevent a permanent criminal record. The bill is very similar to legislation introduced in the House by Democratic Representative Kelly Cassidy and addresses the amendments Governor Bruce Rauner proposed when he vetoed a similar bill passed last year. This new bill may be the one thing both Rauner and Democrats can seem to agree on , as they have been deadlocked for the past 10 months or more over the state's spending plan.

Under current Illinois law, possession of up to 2-1/2 grams of marijuana is a class C misdemeanor punishable by up to 30 days in jail and/or a fine of up to $1,500; possession of 2-1/2 to 10 grams is a class B misdemeanor punishable by up to six months in jail and/or a fine of up to $1,500; and possession of more than 10 grams up to 30 grams is a class 4 felony punishable by up to one year in jail and/or a $1,500 fine.

The measure would also relax Illinois' zero-tolerance policy for driving under the influence. Drivers can currently be charged if any trace of the drug is detected in their system, even if it was used weeks before and the driver is not impaired. Under

Continued on Page 4

Fools in the News

Dumbasses in Headlines around the World

Alligator Surfing Leads to Leg Loss

A Florida man is walking with a severe limp after deciding he was going to try "surfing" on an alligator.

Herbert Jones, 24, of Hollywood, Fla., unfortunately did not think through what he was doing before he drank "a whole case of brewskys" and decided to attempt the stunt. Strangely enough, the first attempt was actually successful, and he "surfed" (rode standing) on the back of a moving alligator for more than three minutes before he fell from the animal's back. However, his second attempt wasn't nearly so successful.

After taking an unwelcome step onto the alligator's back for a second time, the beast promptly shook him off and then turned on him where he lay on the ground in a drunken heap. The result was a severe injury that ultimately led to the loss of Jones' right leg just below the knee. "Don't try this at home," advised Jones when interviewed by a local news crew. "I still love my Budweiser, but I'm just not drinking with gators."

Man Breaks Into Police Station

A New Jersey man was arrested in Lackluster, Tenn., after mistakenly breaking ***into*** a police station.

In a failed burglary attempt, Antony Caccioppo meant to break into a vacuum cleaner repair store via an alleyway, but instead busted out the window of the Tallawacka County Sherriff's Office. Caccioppo reportedly piled up trash bins below the window thinking it was the vacuum shop. He then threw a trashcan through the window before hopping up on the bins only to find himself staring into the face of Sherriff Ronald Bolger.

Bystanders reported hearing a deputy say: "The boys in the county are gonna have fun with your stupid ass" to Caccipio as he was being taken into custody.

Granite Quarry Owner Sacrifices the Disabled To Ensure Success

In a bizarre story, the owner of the largest granite exporter in India, PRP Granites, was charged for numerous criminal activities from corruption to human sacrifice.

PR Palanichamy, in the Indian state of Tamil Nadu, rose through the ranks to become the largest granite magnate in the country. Palanichamy started out in the town of Melur by buying several acres of land rich in pink-hued granite,.

Only a few years later, Western nations began to impose strict regulations on granite quarrying, opening the door for Palanichamy to make a few large deals that led to his company eventually mining 35,000 acres across the state and his net worth rise to more than $3 billion.

Palanichamy was investigated by the highest legal authorities in India after rumors of corruption and shady business practices were disclosed by former associates and employees. The investigation uncovered one of the largest scams of modern India. Police charged 18 mining barons, arrested 40 people, issued warrants for 12 others and seized hundreds of thousands in cash and vehicles. This led to the investigation of 52 government officials.

Additionally, associates began to talk to authorities about strange things they had witnessed, including ritual human sacrifices performed in the board room. Palanichamy apparently would take the extremely poor and physically or mentally disabled from the streets, feed them and woo them into a sense of security before restraining them and slitting their throats "before an idol." He has been charged with several murders and bones and other evidence have been recovered to support the claims.

Porn Star Injured in Bizarre Accident

Carlos Caralho, perhaps the most famous porn star in Brazil, had his penis severed in an unbelievable accident.

According to media reports, Caralho was filming an orgy scene in the explicit movie "Caralho na sua Bunda," which translates as "Boner in your Stinker," when a ceiling fan he was "performing" under to stay cool was shaken loose by the mass pounding and fell, cutting off his penis. Although he was raced to a hospital, the member considered "a national treasure" by many, was unable to be reattached. However, a statement issued by the movie company said they were thankfully able to save his rather well known testicles.

Founded in 1998, *THE PAPER* is published every two weeks and is distributed in nearly 200 and growing locations in the Rockford/Stateline area. It is created based on the standards set forth by the U.S. Constitutieion via the 1st Amendment:

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof, or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press, or the right of the people peaceable to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances."

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GREAT QUOTES

"For those who believe in God, most of the big questions are answered. But for those of us who can't readily accept the God formula, the big answers don't remain stone-written. We adjust to new conditions and discoveries. We are pliable. Love need not be a command nor faith a dictum. I am my own god. We are here to unlearn the teachings of the church, state, and our educational system. We are here to drink beer. We are here to kill war. We are here to laugh at the odds and live our lives so well that Death will tremble to take us."

– **Charles Bukowski**

The Rant from the Editor

If you've gotten this far, you've probably already began to notice the changes that we here at *THE PAPER* are in the process of making. We hope you like what you've seen so far. We have been working diligently behind the scenes for the past few weeks to get everything accomplished that we wanted to do with this first new issue of the only underground newspaper in the Rockford/Stateline Area.

As the new Editor & Publisher, before doing anything to this publication that has been around for nearly 20 years, I first took a long look at what we have been publishing and talked to regular readers.

Thanks to all of you who shared your thoughts and feelings with me. It was really useful in getting a good read on our audience. After all, we are here to serve you.

And after looking at what we had done, and what our audience liked (and even dare I say disliked) about *THE PAPER*, I asked myself the question: "What is the foundation of this paper?"

Then I thought long and hard about the answer to that question. In doing so, I came up with five things that seem to me to be at the heart of this periodical: humor, independence, nightlife, art and community.

The last item in that list may be the most important aspect. This paper is a representation (or maybe reflection is a better word) of the Rockford/ Stateline Area.

THE PAPER is uniquely interwoven with this particular area . This publication would not be the same if it had developed anywhere else. As such, it should appeal to us. Will everyone like it and read it? Of course not. We are not politically correct. We are not mainstream. We are not about appealing to everyone. We are about providing you with a smile or maybe even a laugh, some information about the local music scene, happenings at the various pubs, taverns and bars in the area and other things taking place in our area—your area. The fact that you are reading this means we are doing something right.

As you peruse this first issue the new staff has put together, we know you will see some changes, and we hope they are appealing. However, you will also see a lot of what we have always been. We don't want to lose our edge. We don't want to be the mainstream news source. We don't want to print and distribute 50,000 copies.

Our goal with this issue, and every issue, is to continue to offer those things I identified earlier and hopefully more of them in more and different ways.

That's why we have some definitively local "news" items in this issue. That's why we hired local columnists (and even a local psychic, which you absolutely must read—**see Pages 10 & 11**) to provide information you connect with. That's why we've expanded our list of local music events. That's why we now offer our 7 Bs Community Calendar. We've all said it, but there's no way you can believe that "There's nothing to do in Rockford" after you read this paper. There literally were too many things to include on the list that adults can do on any given day.

And, we are not stopping here. We now have a FACEBOOK page and are working on developing an online version of *THE PAPER* so you can access the humor and information we supply anytime, not just every other week when the new issue comes out in print and you find it at your local hangout.

And as you read, we think you will nod with the rants, laugh at the jokes connect with the information, enjoy the artistry and understand the uniquely Stateline Area take on the world. Because it is you we are specifically putting this publication together for.

Anyway, I've ranted enough here for one issue. Let us know what you think—good, bad or indifferent. Let us know what's going on in your part of the community.

But before I come to a close, I want to give a special thanks to Stacey Zimmerman, the former editor who put a lot of her time and work into keeping this publication alive over the last couple of years .

I look forward to your feedback.

Sincerely,

Kevin Cole
Editor & Publisher
ThePaper@gmx.com

WTF? What's Going on with Main Street in Rockford?

By Hammy G.

If you live in Rockford, chances are you've probably had to navigate the monstrosity that Main Street has become. What a fucking mess! Between the crazy roundabout that someone thought was a good idea to put in (at the expense of who knows how many businesses so far) , and all of the roadwork that is going on, its more difficult to navigate than Rolling Green. (Who the hell designed that neighborhood anyway? There isn't a straight road in it.)

First off, I happen to live on the West Side, and I have to use that damn roundabout nearly every day. While I have no problem making my way around it, the number of dumbasses that either don't realize a yield sign is not a stop sign or who don't realize a yield sign is not a don't-stop sign make it altogether a bit more tricky than it has to be.

I don't know the official stats on how many car accidents took place there before and after the roundabout (although I may have heard Andy or Aaron spouting on about the increase some morning), I would just about bet my balls the accident rate has increased. Hell, it wasn't a month ago that I saw a car had hit one of the few businesses left on Main Street thanks to the damn thing.

I can only wonder how much we spent on that fabulous project, but I'm guessing it didn't lower my taxes. I hope it was worth it to destroy some of the few businesses in the area, cause I don't get it. I'm sure someone with more education and longer titles than my own has a reason, but I haven't heard anyone say "I'm so glad we put in that roundabout and tore down those businesses." Maybe it's just me.

And now, the city is "widening Main Street." From what I can tell, it is an excuse to tear down more businesses and further decimate what I'm guessing from the name was once a vital part of Rockford. Whether it is down on the south end or up on the north end, our "leaders" are making what seems to me to be really fucked up decisions. However, I'm guessing that running Rockford isn't a cakewalk and I'm not interested in the job, but I just can't make sense of it. A business owner in the area (yes, there are actually a few of those left) was telling me that the original plans called for 80,000 sq. ft. of commercial building in two parts that hasn't happened. I probably could go down to City Hall and check the plans to verify it, but in all reality would it really do any good? At least Alpine Bank decided to invest in the area. It makes me want to go and open an account with them.

Anyway, I know what I'm hearing in daily conversation, and everyone seems to be complaining about the roundabout and the general state of Main Street. And while I like to think of myself as a smart guy, I can't make any sense out of it and I've seen it all happening on a daily basis. It just doesn't come together for me in any rational way. It does feel good to let it out, though.

Maybe I'll go down to City Hall and look into this matter myself and report back to everyone what I find. But, on the other hand, I can barely find time to pay the bills, so I will probably just complain.

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WE CARRY ALL THE LATEST LOTIONS.

... Marijuana continued from Page 1

the new legislation, drivers would only be charged with a DUI if they have 5 nanograms of THC in their bloodstream or 10 nanograms in their saliva.

While more than 100 Illinois communities have already removed criminal penalties for simple marijuana possession, opponents feel the proposed law is still too lax. In response to Rauner's feedback from the vetoed 2015 version, new edition drops the number of grams allowed from 15 to 10 and raises the range of fines from $55 to $125 to between $100 and $200.

Rauner spokeswoman Catherine Kelly said the administration was "encouraged to see the General Assembly on a path to accept the governor's changes and will continue monitoring the legislation as it moves forward."

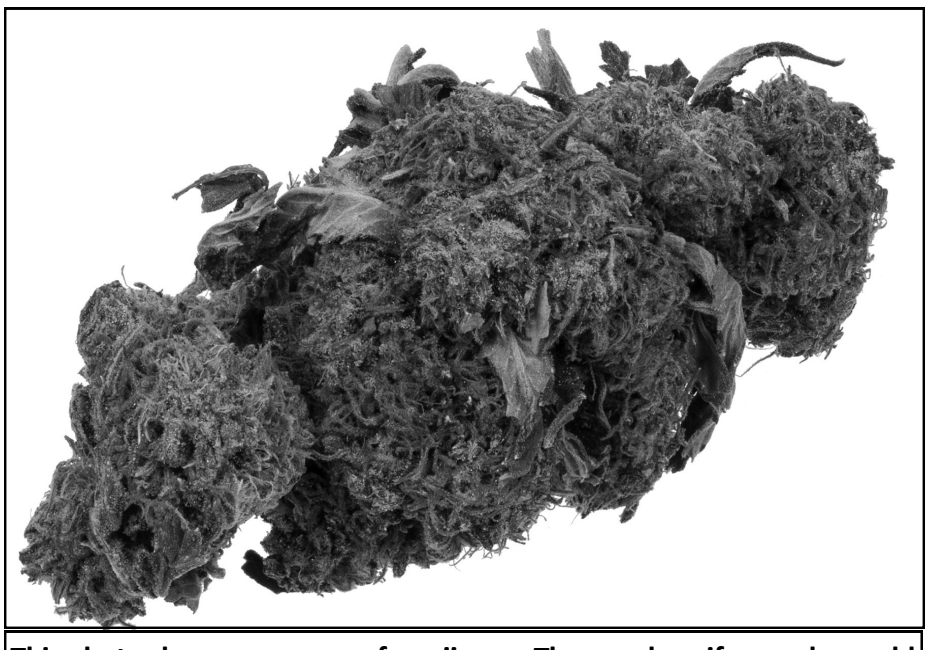
Of note is that the bill leaves the door open for municipalities to add to the fines and set up additional penalties, such as requiring drug treatment.

"We need to replace Illinois's current patchwork of marijuana possession laws with a consistent standard that will be applied fairly across the state," Sen. Steans said. "People should not be sent to jail for an offense that would have been punishable by a small fine if it had occurred a few miles down the road. It's irrational, it's unpredictable, and it's unjust."

In related news, the Illinois advisory board once again recommended that Rauner's administration add new health conditions to a list of what can be treated legally with medical marijuana.

The Medical Cannabis Advisory Board met last week at which time members voted to recommend Type 1 diabetes and panic disorder be added to the program. They repeated their endorsement of 10 other conditions they approved last year. It marked the third time the board recommended osteoarthritis and post-traumatic stress disorder.

The recommendations need approval from Illinois Department of Public Health Director Nirav Shah, who was appointed by Rauner and previously rejected the board's suggestions twice.



This photo shows one gram of marijuana. The new law, if passed , would lessen state punishment of up to 10 grams to a fine of $100 to $200.

Currently, 39 conditions and diseases can qualify a patient to use marijuana in Illinois. The law allows for additions to the program twice annually.

The Illinois Department of Public Health reported 6,200 people are approved to use the drug and 8,100 completed applications. That's well below the estimated industry threshold of 20,000 to 30,000 participants needed to sustain operations.

Illinois is in the middle of a four-year pilot program approved by former Gov. Pat Quinn. The program is set to expire at the end of 2017, and Rauner vetoed a measure that would have extended the program beyond 2018.

Straight Outta Blackhawk Island: (Bad) Advice from LuAnnaBelle Lee

Editor's Note: *This advice is meant only for the person that it is specifically directed to, and even then should be taken at your own risk .*

Burned out on Life

Dear Ann,

My husband and I have been feeling overwhelmed by balancing work, raising four children and trying to have some sort of adult life. We both work full time jobs so we can support our family and just trying to pay the bills and get the kids to school, doctor appointments and extra-curricular activities is too much. We can't even find time to have a love life. How can we make things work?

Dear Burned out on Life,

I don't know what curricular activities are, let alone "extra-curricular" ones, but my advice is to separate yourselves from the problems by selling the kids, moving to Zanzibar and injecting cocaine into your asses for the remainder of your days.

Too Happily Married

Dear LuAnnaBelle,

I've suspected my wife has been cheating on me for months. I haven't' been able to prove it yet, but I have some suspicions. Lately I've noticed she has been really nice to me, staying home and making my favorite meals. It's like she's trying to give me a hint. We were married five years ago in June, and had our first child two months ago, and everything seems to be going well, but all of a sudden, it's like she's satisfied. Every morning is compliments and sex, but it's just not the same. We don't even fight over the toilet paper roll anymore. What's going on?

Dear Too Happily Married,

This problem is best resolved by going ahead and starting an affair too. I suggest nailing her sister. If she doesn't have one, I say go for the mother-in-law.

Mother's Mother

Dear Ms. Lee,

I don't get along with my mother-in-law. Every time she comes over, we get into an argument about one thing or another. We just don't see the world the same way. Then if that's not enough, my wife gets upset over it and I end up having to sleep on the couch. How can I fix the problem?

Dear Mother's Mother,

Your question can be answered using just two words: axe. Get out the grinding stone, sharpen your favorite edged tool and show her who is boss. If she's trying to ruin your life, ruin hers first.

Thanks to all my readers. I look forward to your questions. Until next time, I'll be polishing my teeth.

Send your questions to: LuAnnaBelle Lee, P.O. Box 2108, Loves Park, IL 61130.

Two women were hanging out when the doorbell rang. At the door was a courier with a big bouquet of flowers for one of the women. She walked inside and read to her friend: "Much love from your boyfriend!" She immediately groaned out: "This means I'll be lying on my back with my legs spread wide open for the next two weeks!" To which her friend replied, "Don't you have a vase?"

A man walked into a psychiatrist's office wearing nothing but Saran Wrap. The psychiatrist said, "Well I can clearly see you're nuts."

A man went to the doctorand said: "Doctor, I don't know what to do. Everyday my wife loses her temper for no reason." The doctor replied, "I have a cure for that. When your wife is getting angry, just take a glass of water and swish it in your mouth, but don't swallow it until she either leaves the room or calms down." Two weeks later the man came back to the doctor looking fresh and reborn. The man said: "Doctor that was a brilliant idea! Every time my wife started losing it, I swished with water. I swished and swished, and she calmed right down! How's a glass of water do that?" The doctor said: "The water did nothing. It's keeping your mouth shut that does the trick."

How can you spot a blind man in a nudist colony? C'mon, it's not hard ...

A psychiatrist was conducting a group therapy session with four young mothers and their small children. "You all have obsessions," he observed. To the first mother he said, "You are obsessed with eating. You've even named your daughter Candy." He turned to the second mom,: "Your obsession is with money. Again, it manifests itself in your child's name, Penny." He turned to the third mom: "Your obsession is alcohol. This too shows itself in your child's name, Brandy." At that point, the fourth mother quietly got up, took her little boy by the hand, and whispered, "Come on, Dick, this guy has no idea what he's talking about. Let's pick up Peter and Willy from school and go get dinner."

What's black & sits at the top of the stairs? Steven Hawking after a house fire.

An Irish daughter had not been home for more than 5 years. Upon her return, her father asked, "Where have ye been all this time? Why did ye not write to us or call? Can ye not understand what ye put yer old mum through? The girl, crying, replied, "Sniff, sniff ... dad ... I became a prostitute ..." To that the father replied, "Ye what!!? Out of here, ye shameless harlot! Sinner! You're a disgrace to this family." Hearing that, the girl said, "OK, dad—as ye wish. I just came back to give mum this title deed to a mansion. For me little brother, this Rolex and for ye Daddy, the new Mercedes that's parked outside plus a membership to the country club ..." Stopping her in mid-sentence he said, "Now what was it ye said ye had become?" The girl, crying again, said, "Sniff, sniff ... a prostitute! Sniff, sniff." To which he replied, "Oh! Be Jesus! Ye scared me half to death, girl! I thought ye said a Protestant. Come here and give yer old man a hug."

"Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds" was Lennon proving he was a terrible Clue player.

A man walked up to a beautiful woman at a bar and asked, "Would you have sex with a man for a million dollars?" The woman replied, "A million dollars? Why yes I suppose I would." The man then said, "Great, here's 37 bucks. Let's find a motel room and get busy." At that, she shouted, "WHAT KIND OF WOMAN DO YOU THINK I AM?" He then said, "We've already established that. Now we're just haggling over the price."

Saying you were touched by Jesus is a much different story in a Mexican prison.

A guy died and went to Hell. Satan welcomed him warmly and gave him the keys to a fine apartment, where he found a new set of golf clubs and a membership to the ritzy Hades Golf Club. In the garage was a brand new Harley and the fridge was stocked with beer. He even had servants! One day, after weeks of enjoying all the amenities, he opened up the cellar door, and down below, he saw thousands of souls being tormented in fire and brimstone, and being tortured in unthinkable ways. So, he went to see Satan immediately, and told him what he saw. Satan immediately apologized, saying: "I am so sorry you had to see all that. You see, that is where the Baptists, Evangelicals and other born-again Christians stay, and they wouldn't have it any other way."

Farting in an elevator is was wrong on so many levels ...

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JUNE 3RD
A.S.H. (Ape Shit Holiday)

JUNE 4TH
Top Flight

JUNE 24th
Over the Limit

Big Wins for Local Favorites at this Year's RAMI Awards!

THE PAPER wishes congratulations to the 25th Annual RAMI Award Winners!

Gary Wilmer Memorial Scholarship: Emily Ahrens

Kim & Ruth MacClosky Scholarship: Isaac Leka

RAMI Young Artist Music Scholarship: Sarah Pearl Anderson, Gabe Roethle, & Sinecio Morales

RAMI Outstanding Achievement Award:
Mo Pitney & The Color Morale

Hall of Fame Inductees: AudioDrive, Escape', and 'Jonny B' McDowell

In Memorium: Cammi Weber & Don Zimmerman

Community Service Award: Steve Summers

Music Category Awards:

Acoustic Rock/Folk ~ Minimal

Acoustic Rock/Folk ~ Originals ~ Curt Lewis

Album of the Year: Taboo Blah Blah – Junkyard Greenhouse

Blues ~ Lizzi Neal Band

Christian/Gospel ~ Tania Nicholson

Composer ~ Huguenin – Holding On

Composer ~ Taboo Blah Blah – Harold & Maude

Country/Bluegrass ~ Jaime Campbell & the Redneck Romeos

Country/Bluegrass ~ Olivia Dvorak

DJ ~ Jason Mendeloff

Female Lead Vocalist ~ Melissa Ridgeway ~ Sweet Lucy

Funk/R&B ~ Can't Touch This

Hard Rock/Metal ~ Pulse 18

Hard Rock/Metal ~ Original ~ On My Six

Indie/Alternative ~ Miles Nielsen and the Rusted Hearts

Jazz ~ Frank Calvagna

Latino ~ Dragones

Lighting Technician ~ Laura Walton

Live Sound Engineer ~ Russ Kutak

Male Lead Vocalist ~ Miles Nielsen ~ Miles Nielsen and the Rusted Hearts

Male Lead Vocalist ~ Scotty Van Blazen ~ Sunset Strip

Oldies ~ Shifty Shafer

People's Choice ~ Artist of the Year ~ Desolation Row

People's Choice ~ Radio Station ~ 96.7 The Eagle

People's Choice ~ Special Event ~ Phantom Regiment Show of Shows

People's Choice ~ Venue ~ Whiskey's Roadhouse

Pop ~ Sweet Lucy

Rap/Hip Hop ~ Artoffact & Uno

Rap/Hip Hop ~ Xen

Recording Studio ~ The Midwest Sound

Song of the Year ~ Huguenin – Holding On

Stage Hand/Rigger ~ Jaime Veldman

Stage Manager ~ Jay Samp

Studio Sound Engineer ~ Mossy Vaughn

Tribute Band ~ Sunset Strip

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I USED TO BLAME IT ON LIQUOR. THEN I STARTED BLAMING IT ON THE ECONOMY. BUT NOW THE ECONOMY'S COMING BACK SO I GUESS IT'S BACK TO LIQUOR!
by Roddy Thorleifson
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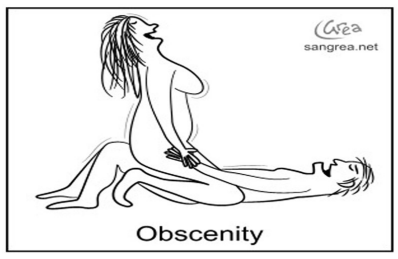

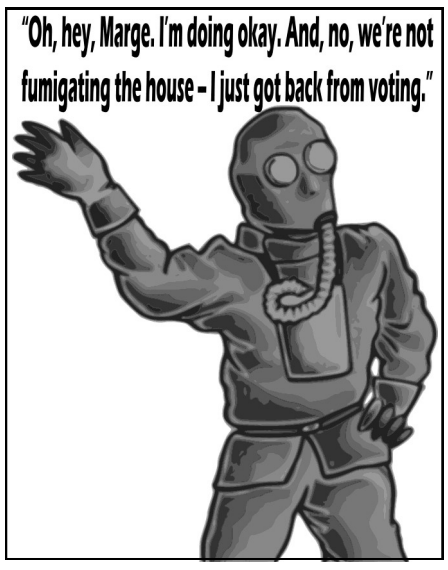

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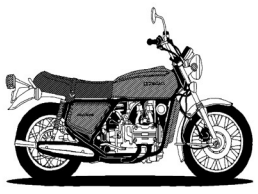

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May 14th
Red Ball Jet

May 21st
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Cullen's Corner: *Pet Peeves*

By Cullen Kilpatrick

I attract animals of all kinds, whether I want the attention or not. Perhaps the constant talk of climate change worries them so they now think of me as a Noah of some kind, anxiously building an imaginary ark. The dynamic I share with animals, both domestic and wild, is strange to me because I attempt at every corner to appear non-threatening, and yet disinterested in them. I question their purpose in my life.

The purpose of all things, both living and inanimate, caters to my practicality. I grew up on a dairy farm, and started halter training, showing and selling cattle at the age of 12. Animals always served a purpose to me, and I to them. It's easy to dismiss the purpose of an animal standing in a field from the comfort of a car, but for me that animal represented the food I ate, the difference between failure and success and all other purchasing power. This experience not only appealed to the ecological idea of animals, but also as learning about business and money.

Not everyone loves animals, but everyone seems to love money. What we once used to count in silver coins then to paper bills, we now digitize into a series of zeros and ones. What we once used to feed us, we reduce to something binary. Money itself strikes me an almost imaginary concept. Like an ark that holds two of every animal floating in a man-made buoy on a sea of God's discontent, money seems a creation of the human mind, and yet we use it to place value on all living things.

My preoccupation with living things struck me earlier this week on my way to drop my brother off. Most mornings, my brother and I agree to travel the 20 minutes to his job site in complete silence. On this day, while traveling west on Rockton Road into Shirland, I noticed a black cat resting in an acre of tall grass.

"Look at that black cat chilling out there," I muttered to my brother.

"Yep," my brother replied. "It's probably waiting for a bird."

The conversation began and ended. We soon arrived at my brother's job site on Yale Bridge Road. The Pecatonica River floated below, a pillow of fog ahead. My brother grabbed his tools and was gone. I finished the drive to work in silence.

"Mainly, I have been trying to silence my mind since leaving that last job," I told my boss when he asked about my current goals. "I've been thinking about the need to make more money."

"Well, we do have opportunities for that, but I wanted to know more about your ideas for a gardening program." My boss looked at his fingers incessantly, and I knew him almost immediately to chew them with anxiety. I looked at my own fingers. Each gouge beneath the nail bed represented a bill I pondered paying. "Maybe you need to take some time out of the schedule to work on the program before seeing so many clients."

"I suppose. I am jumping into this pretty fast." I left the boss' office and walked back to my own, thinking about a life "do-over." I wanted to build something new, and pondered the time I wasted getting to a self-imposed 11th hour of my life. The ever-present contemplation of my mortality arrived, and I dwelled heavy on whether I had enough good effort put into a quality after life.

"It sounds pretty dead in here," my boss said opening my office door. "It's been like an hour, what do you have?"

"What do you mean it's been an hour?" I attempted to look like I worked the entire time in his absence.

"I mean, what have you got for that gardening program?"

"Well," I sat quietly for a moment, and collected myself. "Let's take a walk outside." I pointed to the hill beside the building and discussed the content of my dream garden. I explained how the slopes veering toward the parking lot always seemed perfect for grape vines given that grapes do not like wet feet. The flatter part of the hills crest rested the perfect area for composting and tomatoes given the angle of the sun. Green beans and vine plants found a place in my magic garden, and this new concept of straw gardening should be employed.

I went on to explain the building of a farmer's market. My boss held his fingers on his lips as if confused whether to say no or fully board the ark of my little Eden. This prompted further excitement, as I went on to elaborate on the benefits of teaching clients to grow their own food, embrace nutrition and learn the financial benefits of a garden. His eyes widened at the prospect of profit. "Sounds like you have it all down in your head. We really need to get this down on paper," he said.

I returned to my desk, furiously typing a draft of the gardening program. I spent the remainder of my day selling the rough draft to co-workers. The excitement they

Continued on next page

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Pet Peeves continued from previous page ...

exuded felt unparalleled, and my worries about money seemed to fade. Hope, built on the promise of financial gain replaced the crumbling exhaustion of worrying about bills and income. I rounded out the day by printing the masterpiece before leaving to recover my brother from his job site.

Driving alone from the east side of Rockford to the west end of Winnebago County exhausted the excitement of my day. Fortunately, my brother's work day shared the same excitement as my own. "How was your day buddy?"

"Oh man, I was so tired this morning, but I was able to convince my boss to look at my gardening program." I could barely restrain the rest of the experience before he replied.

"That's great man! I had a great day too; very productive. I got all the flooring in the kitchen tore up, and the new countertops should be in on Monday." We headed east on Yale Bridge road. The fog now burned off from a full day of sunlight, I flipped on the high beams of the headlights as the sun set in the rear view mirror. Within minutes we slowed for three white tail deer crossing the road.

"Man, they have been out here all day today."

"I know, this area is always swarming with them," I replied. "Don't wanna hit one of those things."

"Yeah, I don't wanna face plant on an airbag tonight either."

"So, it sounds like they are really interested in the whole, 'farmer's market idea' more than the actual gardening component, but that's really okay with me," I went on as a car approached in the opposing lane. The driver shut off his high beams, as did I, and for a split moment I was blinded by the oncoming headlights as they whirred past me.

That's why I didn't notice that the black cat from that morning had emerged from his hunting grounds and sat calmly in my lane, staring at my head lights before I took his head off at 55 miles an hour.

"OH MY GOD I JUST KILLED THAT FUCKING CAT!" I screamed in part disbelief, and part regret for not braking. My brother burst into laughter.

"It's not fucking funny, I just killed someone's pet!" My brother laughed harder.

"Should I go back and see if it's suffering and put it out of its misery?"

Stuffing down his laughter my brother said, "How fast were you going?"

"About 55."

"Yeah," he starts laughing again, "It's fucking dead. Bright light, and then *snap* darkness."

"That's fucking horrible! Oh man, I was having such a good day."

"Your reaction is what made me laugh." My brother took off his ball cap and readjusted his long hair to fit beneath before returning it to his head. "Think about it though, feral cats are one of the most invasive animals on the planet. They kill thousands of native birds every year, and disrupt ecosystems everywhere. So, basically, you just saved like, a thousand birds."

"So I'm a hero?"

"Yeah, it was either it, or the birds. Could you have stopped anyway?"

"Not really, we probably would have gotten killed."

"We stop for a deer because it could kill us, but if its say, a possum or a raccoon we say 'kill it!' because it's not this majestic creature or something we could potentially pet. It's such a bullshit double standard." My brother went on to describe the benefits of killing cats all over the world, and the investment we need to make in our environment. I drowned a lot of it out, contemplating my own mortality.

"It was probably that same damn cat from this morning. Who knew when I pointed it out this morning, I'd only return to kill it nine hours later."

"It probably was, if that makes your feel any better." My brother stared at me seriously, and again broke out into laughter.

"Fuck you, and fuck that cat too. Ruining my day." I started laughing as well, as we pulled into downtown Rockton for a drink and dinner. Sitting at the bar I sipped on my whiskey, and looked up my bank account on my phone. I could only spend 15 dollars. I started digging at my nails, contemplating ways to win more imaginary money.

I turned to my brother and said, "Thanks for putting it into perspective."

My brother laughed and replied, "Yeah, no biggie man. It's not like we're supposed to save every animal from the flood or something."

"No I guess not."

"Even humans got kicked out of the garden."

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MAY 2016 HOROSCOPES FROM THE GREAT MADAME BOVINE

Taurus (April 20 ~ May 20)

Your uncompromising stubbornness will blow up in your face this week, and there isn't a damn thing you can do about it. Everyone's going to leave you alone for the time being, if not permanently. This sudden change will create a sense of insecurity, which you'll need to mask with a five-day bender and a trip to the county jail. When you wake, and are crippled by the sudden weight of your asinine behavior, you'll find comfort in the fact that at least you were right. Although, facing charges of battery and public nudity, you can't quite remember what you were right about. Your element is earth, your planet is Venus, and your sentence is 28 days of rehab.

Gemini (May 21 ~ June 21)

Your constant indecisiveness finally pays off, and people will just stop trying. Who are you really? Are you the fun crazy cat from college all gussied up for a sexy pajama party at 47, or the stuffy church-going pain-in-the-ass know-it-all who no one invites to the party but always shows up? You need to stop chatting it up at the doughnut emporium with every numb-nuts you meet, and make up your fucking mind. Your planet's Mercury; lucky number is 8 ... oh for God's sake! Yes, pay 2 dollars for the Powerball!

Cancer (June 22– July 22)

Your constant need to stay inside has completely depleted you of any trace of Vitamin D. At this point, don't care if you're playing on the slide with grammar school children. We're all just so fucking happy to see you finally get some sun. You're a human, not a Hobbit. Come out of your hole already. Your planet is the moon, your color is white, and you'll get your period this week, even if you don't have a vagina.

Leo (July 23 ~ August 22)

Bravo! Center stage suits you well, but the audience has left the building, and the rest of the cast thinks you are a total asshole, which, you actually kind of are when you think about it. I mean banging cocktail waitresses, and dodging child support payments was the "in thing" at around 25. You're 50 now, and playing Hamlet at the Mooville community theatre.? That's a bit of a stretch. With three pounds of make-up and the right lighting, you really pulled it off. If your mother were still alive, she'd be proud of you. Your ruler is the sun, your element is fire, put down the pills ...crash diets never work.

Virgo (August 23 ~ September 22)

You leave nothing to chance, and people are constantly asking for advice. Have you ever thought about telling them to fuck off? And, while we are at it, let's drop the whole "I'm a virgin! I'm an innocent!" thing: Everyone knows you blew Tommy's little brother at his daughter's birthday party last Sunday. He probably would have kept it to himself, save the fact he has Down Syndrome and was super excited about what just happened. Your timing really sucked there, and we were all a little surprised at your poor planning given your history. Your quality is mutable; Beige is your color, which you're going to need to cover all that embarrassment.

Libra (September 23 ~ October 23)

Your need for justice pays off in the bedroom this month, and you find "if you give a little, you get a little." So while you "gave" your lover oral sex without protection, you in turn "received" the gift of chlamydia. Congrat! (Don't worry; there is a shot for that.) You need the constant reminder that things aren't always fair, and it's totally justifiable to find that dirty-genitaled fucker and beat 'em over the head with a scale. "What do you mean you've never been fucking tested? You put that in my mouth without as much as a warning? It's the 21st century for Christ's sake!" *huff ... huff ... huff* Count to 10 ... and we're back. You're day is Friday. Venus is your ruler. Namaste you piece of shit.

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Scorpio (October 24 – November 21)

Your guardian angel reveals to you in a dream he's been betting against you for months. You also learn he is brain damaged and suffers from Dwarfism. He thanks you for your epic failures, and tells you about the time he bet you wouldn't smell your finger after scratching your butthole and you didn't. And yet, the other angels in heaven still talk about how shocked they were that you put it in your mouth. Stuff tastes like shit doesn't it? Be wary of public bathrooms and a guy named Stan who's into anal. You're compatible with Pisces, your color is red. Make sure to do your taxes (although you're a bit late).

Sagittarius (November 22– December 21)

Your curiosity and enthusiasm has become so obnoxious that people are starting to imagine what it's like to eat a cactus as a distraction to your optimism. Get with the program already: Trump is the Republican nominee! Stop blowing sunshine up the ass of a world that's about to get set on fire. Nobody wants to be happy about things that are totally shitty for fuck's sake. Your planet is Jupiter, you're really into purple, and sorry, but Prince is dead as a door nail.

Capricorn (December 22 – January 19)

Your co-workers are tired of you wasting your and their time filling up the office suggestion box every other day with your so-called "ideas." Seriously, that suggestion box is only there to give you the impression that management really gives a fuck so that you'll work for another three hours tonight and not ask for a dime in return. It is not there to tell Carol in accounting where she should buy her fucking pants and matching Bradford Executive bag. Blah, blah, blah ... shut the hell up. You're the kind of person that complains about being alone while eating half a dozen doughnuts in one sitting without seeing the irony. You're planet is Saturn, your quality is Cardinal, oh, and Jim's retiring, so we're going to need you to plan the potluck.

Aquarius (January 20 – February 18)

You are progressive and motivated for change. That's awesome. Stop telling people how smart you are while doing lines of blow off a glass table from a 1980's porn set. That is not only stupid, it's really fucking gross. I mean seriously, AIDS dude. Have you ever noticed the look on people's face when you insist everyone should be eating organic meat on gluten-free everything while you are eating a McRib? It never occurred to you, huh? Dumbass. Let just say we are all laughing our asses off at you while you stand on the corner with a cardboard sign talking about how the end is nigh in your pressed REI classic black slacks and matching fleece on the west side of Rockford. Your element is air, your lucky number is 666, your color is red, white and blue (and you are so stupid you don't even realize that's three colors). Dick.

Pisces (February 19 – March 20)

Ah ... dreamy, poetic Pisces. You have such intuition and yet you're such a God damn flake that you have absolutely no way of explaining it without making up words. You are responsible for "words" like "bling," "LOL" and "George Foreman Grille." You even put an "e" on the end of grill. That's the height of pompous. You paint religiously in purple and yellow, and people buy your shitty "art" to reek of the false high-end bullshit you keep spinning. There's a reason nobody comes to smoke pot at your phat pad anymore, and it's because we outgrew shag carpeting in college after Patrick shit on your couch ... the same damn couch you still pass out on every night. Your element is water, your planet is Neptune. Don't fall asleep with a cigarette in your hand.

Aries (March 21 – April 19)

Your constant need for speed and to be 1st at everything will finally pay off this month. You'll finally run that marathon you've incessantly bored your friends talking about non-stop for months, thusly plaguing any chance they'll show up to watch you run 26 miles. I mean seriously, why? What are you trying to prove anyway? You look like an underfed Auschwitz victim in your Lululemon running gear and an embroidered Occunomix ball cap. Who the hell actually wears shit like that? Don't lie to yourself about how healthy you are. You aren't fooling anyone. Your planet's Mars, your number is definitely 0 and for Christ's sake eat a fucking potato and have a seat already.

Editor's Note: *Yeah, she's an asshole, but we already paid her, so we don't want to waste the money and not run her psychic ramblings. We'll talk to her about it ...*

Community Calendar (or Beers, Bikes, Bars, Bowling, BBQs, Billiards & Benefits)

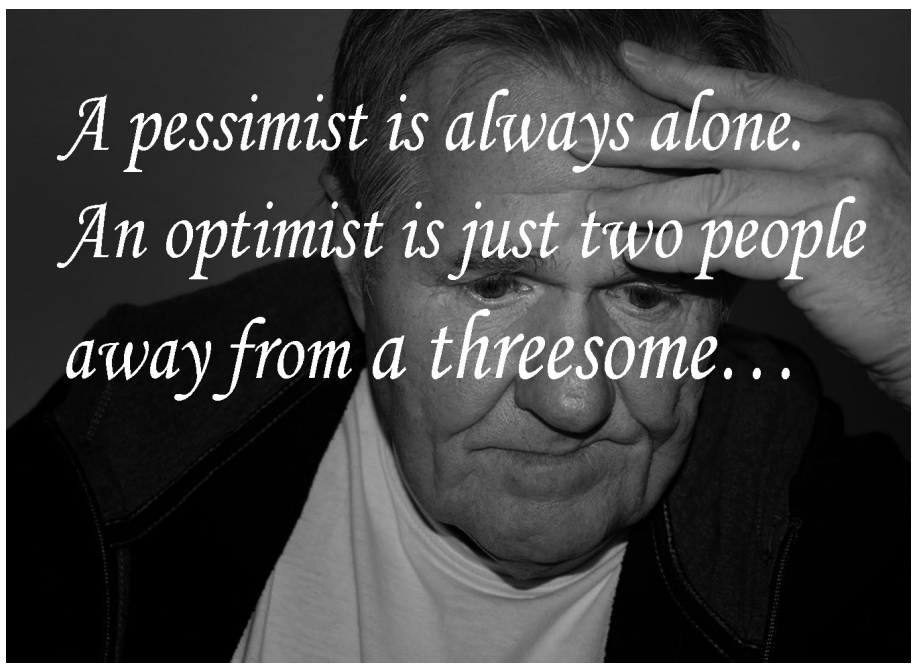
THE PAPER, in support of the Rockford/Stateline Area, presents this Community Calendar that shows what events for adults and/or charitable events outside of the realm of the local music scene, which are included on the list on Page 15. We invite anyone to submit their events for consideration, by emailing our editor at ThePaper@gmx.com or calling us at 815-721-1507. Due to space constraints we cannot guarantee inclusion of every event, but we will do our best to include as many applicable events as space allows. The deadline to have your event considered for the next issue is May 23.

MAY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				12 Spring Fling Book Sale @ Cherry Valley Public Library 9am-8 Cabinet of Curiosities @ Tinker Swiss Cottage in Rockford 1&3	13 Spring Fling Book Sale @ Cherry Valley Library 9am-8 Cabinet of Curiosities @ Tinker Swiss Cottage 1&3	14 Pec Thing Flea Market @ Winnebago Fairgrounds in Pecatonica 8am-5 North End City Market @ Main & Auburn-Rockford 9am-1 Forest City Comic Con @ Tebala in Rockford 10am-6pm Stateline Peace Rally @ Riverside Park Beloit 12-9 Benefit for Terry Hahn @ Rooney's in Beloit 1-6
15 Pec Thing Flea Market @ Winnebago Fairgrounds in Pecatonica 8am-5 Forest City Comic Con @ Tebala in Rockford 11am-5 Cabinet of Curiosities @ Tinker Swiss Cottage 1&3 Spring Classic Car Show @ Joe's Place Marengo 1-3 Rockford Peaches Play @ Midway Village - 1-4	16 Spring Fling Book Sale @ Cherry Valley Library 9am-8 Trivia Night @ Whiskey's Rockton Inn - 7pm	17 Spring Fling Book Sale @ Cherry Valley Library 9am-8 Cabinet of Curiosities @ Tinker Swiss Cottage 1&3	18 Edgebrook Farmers Market in Rockford 9am-1 Spring Fling Book Sale @ Cherry Valley Library 9am-8 Cabinet of Curiosities @ Tinker Swiss Cottage 1&3 Open Mic Night @ Grand Ave. Pub in Beloit-6:30-9:30 Comedy Night @ Town Hall in Loves Park	19 Spring Fling Book Sale @ Cherry Valley Library 9am-8 Cabinet of Curiosities @ Tinker Swiss Cottage 1&3 Art of Bonsai @ Anderson Japanese Gardens in Rockford starts at 7 Avery: Guilty as Charged @ Coronado in Rockford 8pm	20 Spring Fling Book Sale @ Cherry Valley Library 9am-8 Cabinet of Curiosities @ Tinker Swiss Cottage 1&3 Rockford City Market @ Water St. & E.State 3:30-8:30 Uncorked in the Garden @ Anderson Gardens 5:30-8 Kiwanis Club Budding Artists 2016 @ Mauh-Nah-Tee-See in Rockford 6-9	21 Joshua Berryhill Benefit & Ride - Poker Run starts @ Rocky's in Love's Park w/ 10 am sign up ends @Tad's at 5:30 w/ Benefit from 5-8 Tough Mudder Obstacle Course @ Rockford Airport all day Kiya Strawbridge Cancer Benefit @ White Eagle Club in Rockford starts1pm Rockford Rage Roller Derby @ Sportscore in Loves Park starts at 6
22 Cabinet of Curiosities @ Tinker Swiss Cottage 1&3 Rockford Guitar Show & Music Expo @ Tabala Event Center 11am-5 Tough Mudder Obstacle Course @ Rockford Airport all day	23 Kevin's Dental Surgery @ Dentist Office in Rockford starts at 3:45pm Trivia Night @ Whiskey's Rockton Inn - 7pm	24 Cabinet of Curiosities @ Tinker Swiss Cottage 1&3	25 Edgebrook Farmers Market in Rockford 9am-1 Cabinet of Curiosities @ Tinker Swiss Cottage 1&3 Open Mic Night @ Grand Ave. Pub in Beloit-6:30-9:30 Wednesday Night Pool league begins @ The Carom Room in Beloit	26 Cabinet of Curiosities @ Tinker Swiss Cottage 1&3 GPS Farmers Market @ GPS Community on N. 2nd St. in Machesney Park 3-7 Rocktown Adventures Kayak Trip: Kishwaukee River @ Espenscheid Forest Preserve in Cherry Valley 3:30-6:30	27 Cabinet of Curiosities @ Tinker Swiss Cottage 1&3 Winnebago Farmer's Market @ Winnebago Public Library 3:30-7 Rockford City Market @ Water St. & E.State 3:30-8:30 Young at Heart Festival @ Loves Park City Hall Grounds 5-midnight	28 Rocktown Adventures Rock River Paddle: Oregon to Gran Detour @ the Dam in Oregon 10am-4 Cabinet of Curiosities @ Tinker Swiss Cottage 1&3 Military Appreciation Night @ Rockford Speedway starts at 5 Young at Heart Festival @ Loves Park City Hall Grounds 6-midnight

JUNE

29 Rocktown Adventures Intro to Kayaking @ 313 N. Madison in Rockford 10am-1 Cabinet of Curiosities @ Tinker Swiss Cottage 1&3 Young at Heart Festival @ Loves Park City Hall Grounds 6-midnight	30 Memorial Day Parade (starts on 7th St.) & Ceremonies @ Veterans Memorial Hall in Rockford 9am-noon Trivia Night @ Whiskey's Rockton Inn - 7pm	31 Cabinet of Curiosities @ Tinker Swiss Cottage 1&3	1 Edgebrook Farmers Market in Rockford 9am-1 Cabinet of Curiosities @ Tinker Swiss Cottage 1&3 Open Mic Night @ Grand Ave. Pub in Beloit-6:30-9:30 Wednsday Night Pool league begins @ Rockford Billiards Cafe	2 Cabinet of Curiosities @ Tinker Swiss Cottage 1&3 Edgebrook Farmers Market in Rockford 3-6:30 Thursday Night Pool league begins @ Rockford Billiards Cafe	3 HCC Farmers Market @ Alpine & Newburg in Rockford 9am - 1pm Cabinet of Curiosities @ Tinker Swiss Cottage 1&3 Rockford City Market @ Water St. & E.State 3:30-8:30 Friday Night Frenzy & Market on the Square in Downtown Durand 7pm	4 Cabinet of Curiosities @ Tinker Swiss Cottage 1&3



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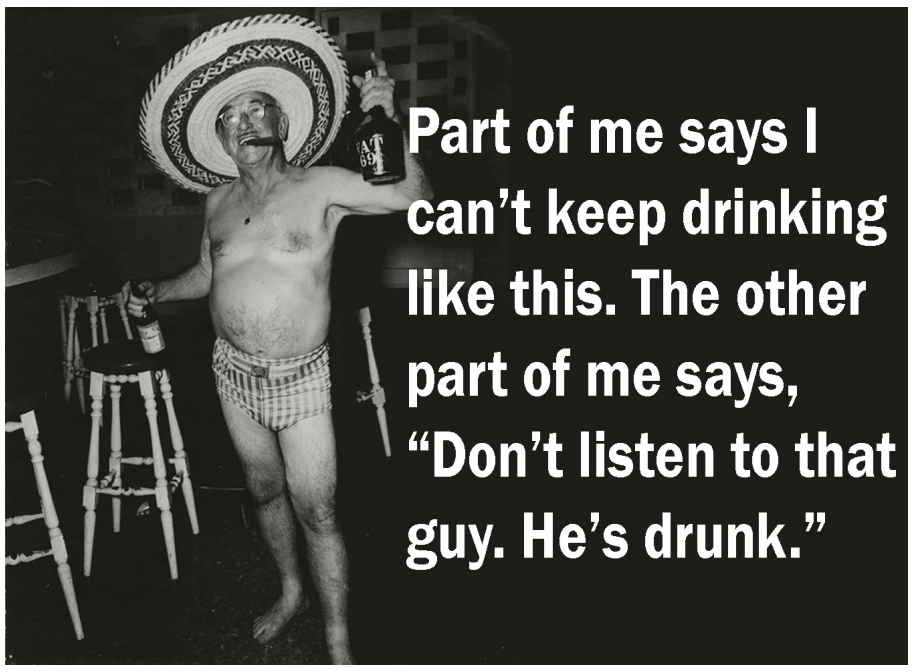

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- Thursday $3.00 BLUE MOON BOTTLES
- Friday $2.00 MILLER LITE BOTTLES
- Saturday $3.00 HEINEKEN BOTTLES
- Sunday $3.00 BLOODY MARYS
- Always FREE WI-FI

Support Your Local Music Scene

BAND/MUSIC EVENT	VENUE	DATE
Revue Hosts Blues Jam Night	FatBob's in Kirkland	Every First & Third Friday from 8-12
Glenn Davis & Pops	Grand Avenue Pub in Beloit	May 12 from 7-10
Andrew Robinson	Rural on Tap in Rockford	May 12 from 7-10
Paper Airplane	Gene's Place in Rockford	May 13 from 7-11
Harlan Jefferson	Mary's Market Edgebrook Center in Rockford	May 13 from 6:30 to 8:30
New Image	Grand Avenue Pub in Beloit	May 13 from 8:30-12:30
Desolation Row	Rock-A-Bago Hall in Rockford	May 14
PTP	Wild Wild Westmor in Rockford	May 14
Dirt Road Rebelz	Town Hall Lounge in Love's Park	May 14
Red Ball Jet	2 Wheel in Rockford	May 14
Pistol Pete	Wiskeys Rockton Inn in Rockton	May 14
Pulse 18	Waterfall Party Bar in Belvidere	May 14
The Jimmys	Hope & Anchor in Love's Park	May 14 from 8-12
Four Wheel	Casey's Pub in Love's Park	May 14 from 9-1
Ivy Ford	Grand Avenue Pub in Beloit	May 15 from 3:30-7:30
Humpjack Stomp	Grand Avenue Pub in Beloit	May 17 starting at 7:30
Vinyl Voodoo	Mary's Place in Rockford	May 18 from 10-2
Derek Luttrell	Rural on Tap in Rockford	May 19 from 7-10
P.O.D.	The Apollo Theatre Ac in Belvidere	May 18 starting at 7
Glenn Davis & Pops	Grand Avenue Pub in Beloit	May 19 from 7-10
Bad Indication	Mike's Roadhouse in Beloit	May 20
Secret Serenade	Gene's Place in Rockford	May 20 from 7-10
Sunset Strip (acoustic)	Town Hall in Love's Park	May 20 starting at 9:30
Sue Fink and Jane Godfrey	Just Goods in Rockford	May 20 starting at 7
Vinyl Daze	Grand Avenue Pub in Beloit	May 20 from 8:30-12:30
Brother K	Mary's Market Edgebrook Center in Rockford	May 20 from 6:30-8:30
Sweet Lucy	Rock-A-Bago Hall in Rockford	May 21
Street Life	Wild Wild Westmor in Rockford	May 21
Stone Free	2 Wheel in Rockford	May 21
Stone Cold Moonshine	Town Hall Lounge in Love's Park	May 21
The Hit Men	Wiskeys Rockton Inn in Rockton	May 21
Matt Hofstrom Benefit-Live Bands All Day	Grand Avenue Pub In Beloit	May 21—All Day/Night
Mark Sturm	Rural on Tap in Rockford	May 21 from 9-12
Ruffcutz	Greenhouse Bar & Grill in South Beloit	May 21 from 8:30-12:30
Andrew Robinson	Pig Minds Brewing Company in Machesney Park	May 21 starting at 3
Pablo and the Rhythmix	Splitters Bar & Grill in Love's Park	May 21 from 8-12
The Crave	Casey's Pub in Love's Park	May 21 from 9-1
Shifty Shafer	Neighbors Bar & Grill in Love's Park	May 21 starting at 9
Taboo Blah Blah and Pink Beam	Veterans Memorial Hall in Rockford	May 21 starting at 7
Rebel Soul	Shooters East—Cherry Bowl	May 21 from 9-1
Corey Dennison	Grand Avenue Pub in Beloit	May 22 from 3:30-7:30
Rollin Whiskey	Casey's Pub in Love's Park	May 23 from 9-1
Hogtied to the Misfits	Grand Avenue Pub in Beloit	May 24 starting at 7:30
Desolation Row	Mustangs Bar & Grill in South Beloit	May 24 starting at 6:30
Vinyl Voodoo	Mary's Place in Rockford	May 25 from 10-2
Gypsy Jazz Trio	Rural on Tap in Rockford	May 26 from 7-10
Glenn Davis & Pops	Grand Avenue Pub in Beloit	May 26 7-10
Jennifer Westwood & the Handsome Devils	Kryptonite in Rockford	May 27 starting at 8
Pistol Pete	Mary's Place in Rockford	May 27
Audio Drive	Casey's Pub in Love's Park	May 27 from 9-1
Eddie B Jazz	Mary's Market Edgebrook Center in Rockford	May 27 from 6:30-8:30pm
Exmoor	Grand Avenue Pub in Beloit	May 27 8:30-12:30
Rat Baxter	Rock-A-Bago Hall in Rockford	May 28
Minimal	Town Hall Lounge in Love's Park	May 28
Catfish Bernie Meise	New Kishwaukee Tap in Rockford	May 28 from 9-12
On My Six	Wiskeys Rockton Inn in Rockton	May 28 starting at 8
All Hopes Deceit	Overflowing Cup in Beloit	May 28 starting at 6:30
ManaKintorso	Pig Minds Brewing Company in Machesney Park	May 28 starting at 7
Red Band	Grand Avenue Pub in Beloit	May 29 3:30-7:30

SPREAD THE WORD — SHARE YOUR MUSIC EVENTS WITH OUR READERS

THE PAPER **is dedicated to supporting the Rockford Area/Stateline music scene, and most of our audience is too. As such, we will list applicable music events in the area free of charge. Just notify us of the band/event, where it is taking place and when, and we will include it in this listing. You can reach our editor by email at thepaper@gmx.com or call 815-721-1507 and share the information. <u>The next deadline for submission is May 23 for the May 26 issue of *THE PAPER*.</u>**

The Pool of Talent in the Stateline Billiard Scene Is Definitely Not Lacking

The Stateline Area has a thriving billiard industry if the turnout to The Carom Room Spring Classic that took place in Beloit May 6 to 8 is any sign. The 8-ball tournament, which hosted some of the best pool players in the world, including the No. 1 ranked U.S. player Shane Van Boening among others, played to a packed house all weekend. The tournament winner, Warren "The Warrior" Kiamco, hailing from the Philippines, took home a more than $14,000 payout, while Boening came in third place behind Justin Bergman.

The Carom Room also hosted a lesser 10-ball tourney that paid out well for Jesse Bowman who earned around 10 times the $200 buy-in by beating out Anthony Shea. Including both tournaments, the event paid out more than $40,000 in winnings.

No. 1 ranked pool player in the United States Shane Van Boening looks for his shot while highly rated pro Skyler Woodward waits his turn (left background) during The Carom Room Spring Classic that took place May 6-8 in Beloit.

The Local Pool Offerings

The Carom Room, hosts a number of tournaments each year including several national competitions, and is the oldest pool hall in Wisconsin. With 23 pool tables, a bar and a dining room, the billiard venue is nothing to sneeze at.

The only other billiard hall in the area is the Rockford Billiard Café on the northwest side of Rockford, which has 19 tables and a full-service pro shop with on-site cue repair, in addition to top-grade equipment as well as a full bar and an offering of food and a full line of programming, including lessons, sanctioned leagues and tournaments.

Rockford Billiard Café is owned by Tyler and Angie Voorhees who are both certified instructors. When asked about the health of the game in the Stateline Area, Tyler said he had experienced steady business for quite awhile. He is apparently doing something right, as he is currently renovating the back room of the establishment to create a private banquet hall that will be able to be rented out for private parties. The Voorhees obviously take pride in their establishment and Tyler takes note of the local business landscape and is proud to be investing in Rockford's West Side.

While pool halls have historically gotten a bad rap, probably based on misguided images of dens of bad behavior from television and movies, the two major venues in this area certainly don't live up to that reputation. Both are clean, well taken care of places (not to mention having nice bars with a great selection of drinks). Of course, billiards has long been a staple in local watering holes, and numerous locales around the area offer pool and have tournaments and leagues at various times.

The Wednesday night summer leagues for The Carom Room begin on May 25, and the Monday, Wednesday and Thursday night leagues at Rockford Billiard Café start June 1. Both establishments currently have open sign up for their respective leagues.

Rockford Billiard Café
1436 N. Main St
(815) 962-0957
www.RockfordBilliardCafe.com
or like us on Facebook!

Rockford Billiard Café

Two-man leagues running June to August,
choose one or more nights:
Mondays, Wednesdays or Thursdays.
Starts at 7 pm and ends about 9 or 10.
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May 14 - Desolation Row
2016 RAMI Award Winner
May 21 - Sweet Lucy
2016 RAMI Award Winner
May 28 - Rat Baxter
June 4 - Soul To Soul
June 11 - Loud Exhaust
June 19 - Shifty Shafer
2016 RAMI Award Winner

Check out Our Great Drink Specials
Happy Hour! 12-1pm Daily 5-6pm Daily
$1.50 12OZ DOMESTIC DRAFTS & $1.00 Rock-A-Bago Shots DAILY
MILLER MONDAYS
ALL MILLER, PBR AND OLD STYLE CANS $2.00
TUESDAY
ALL CAN BEERS $2.00
WEISER WEDNESDAY
ALL BUD AND BUD LIGHT CANS $2.00
CANNONBALL THURSDAY
CAPTAIN CANNONBALLS $3.00
DR. AND FIREBALL SHOTS $2.50
FRIDAY
FLAVORED VODKA MIXERS $3.00
FLAVORED CAPTAIN MIXERS $3.00
SATURDAY
BARTENDER'S CHOICE
16 IN. PIZZA $12.99
SUNDAY
VODKA AND OJ $3.00
ALL DOMESTIC BOTTLES $2.00
BLOODY MARY BAR $3.00

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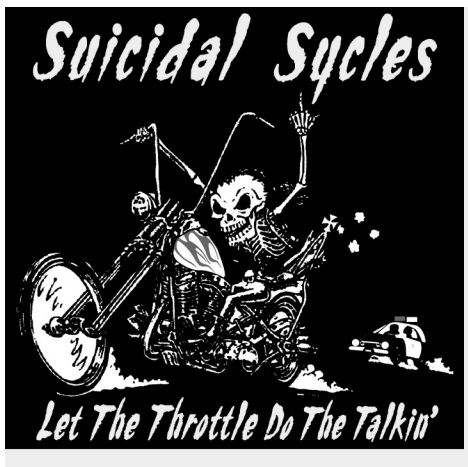

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Sunday after Darts and Fri 9pm

Entertainment

May 14 - Dirt Road Rebelz
May 18 - Comedy Night
May 20 - Sunset Strip
(acoustic show starts @ 9:30)
May 21 - Stone Cold Moonshine

Come for dinner and stay for the show!

Weekly Dinner Specials
Tues - Thursday
4pm - 8pm

Tuesday

Salisbury steak w/ mashed potatoes & gravy, house veggie, coleslaw & roll $8.85

4-piece chicken dinner served w/ mashed potatoes & gravy, veggie, coleslaw & roll $8.95

Wednesday

Ribs! Served w/ Butch's Famous Lumberjack Beans, steak fries, coleslaw & roll $10.95

10oz NY Strip w/ steak fries, coleslaw & roll $12.95

Thursday

Fried cod sandwhich served w/ regular fries & coleslaw $7.95

Italian Beef w/ regular fries $7.95

Pulled pork w/ regular fries $6.95

Cards Against Humanity

Cards Against Humanity
Every Wednesday
6-8pm

Weekly Drink Specials
$2 TUESDAYS
$2 CAN MILLER LITE, 64 COORS LIGHT, BUD AND BUD LIGHT
1/2 PRICE APPETIZERS FROM 6-10, DINE IN ONLY (EXLUDES WINGS)

HUMPDAY WEDNESDAY
50¢ OFF REGULAR PRICE DRINKS

THROWBACK THURSDAY
$2 16OZ CANS OF PBR, 120Z CANS BUSCH LIGHT, AND 120Z CANS OLD STYLE

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